

Crazy Castle (series)

The ***Crazy Castle series*** is an action-puzzle game series created by Kemco and released on the Famicom Disk System, NES, Game Boy, Game Boy Color and Game Boy Advance. It stars different popular cartoon characters, most notably the Warner Bros. cartoon character Bugs Bunny and the Walt Disney cartoon character Mickey Mouse.

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History

Kemco started the franchise after they bought the rights to produce a Famicom Disk System game based on the film *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* to make the first game's plot loosely based on the film. When Kemco was planning to release it outside Japan, there was already an NES game based on the same film developed by Rare and published by LJN. In order to release it outside Japan, Kemco bought the rights to Warner Bros.' *Looney Tunes* franchise to produce *Looney Tunes*-based video games, while the looks of some other *Looney Tunes* characters featured in the game as enemies have similarities to the Bon Patrol.

When the promotion of the film *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* in Japan ended, Kemco lost the rights in producing video games based on the film there, but gained the rights to produce Disney-based ones, due to the *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* film being produced by Touchstone Pictures, a studio owned by The Walt Disney Company. Kemco later produced their *Mickey Mouse* versions in the *Crazy Castle* series and released most of these versions exclusively in Japan, while continuing their *Looney Tunes* versions outside Japan; however, some were based on other licenses such as Jim Davis's *Garfield* comic strip and *The Real Ghostbusters* animated television series

Shortly before the release of *Bugs Bunny: Crazy Castle 3* worldwide with Nintendo publishing it outside Japan, Kemco released the compilation*Bugs Bunny Collection*exclusively in Japan, which was a re-release of *Mickey Mouse I* and *II*, but with the Bugs Bunny sprite set and other minor updates (such as the Super Game Boy support). The rest of the games in the *Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle* series were released as original titles throughout all territories from this point forward.

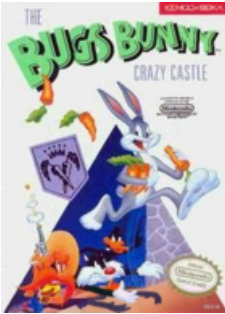
The fifth entry of the *Crazy Castle* series starred Walter Lantz's *Woody Woodpecker* in the role, rather than Bugs Bunny, due to Kemco losing their license to release Warner Bros. properties, while switching to the exclusive rights for releasing Universal Studios properties, because of their release of the Nintendo GameCube title, *Universal Studios Theme Parks Adventure*, in which Woody was also one of the main characters.

Gameplay

While presented in a side-scroller format, The *Crazy Castle* games differed from standard side-scrollers such as *Super Mario Bros.* in that the playable character did not have a jump function; therefore, only by taking different routes (for example by stairs, ladders and teleporters) could the character avoid enemies and collect certain items. Some of the levels have weapons or invincibility items that could be used against the enemies in the game. There are also objects that the player must collect in order to complete a level, like keys. Passwords can be used to start at a certain level.

List of games in the series

Crazy Castle



Cover artworks of *Roger Rabbit* (left) and *The Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle* (right), the first games in the series.

Genre(s)	Action, puzzle
Developer(s)	Kemco Tantalus Interactive (<i>Woody Woodpecker in Crazy Castle 5</i>) Mitsui Comtek (mobile)
Publisher(s)	Kemco Activision (<i>The Real Ghostbusters</i>) Mitsui Comtek (Mobile) Nintendo (<i>Crazy Castle 3</i> non-Japan release and <i>Crazy Castle</i> and <i>Crazy Castle 2 Players Choice</i> U.S. release)

Japanese title		North American title	PAL region title		System	Year
ロジャーラビット <i>Roger Rabbit</i>		<i><u>The Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle</u></i>			FDS/NES	1989
ミッキーマウス <i>Mickey Mouse</i>	ボックス・バニーコレクション	<i><u>The Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle</u></i>			Game Boy	1989 & 1990
ミッキーマウスII <i>Mickey Mouse II</i>	<i>Bugs Bunny Collection</i>	<i><u>The Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle 2</u></i>	<i><u>Hugo</u></i>	<i>Mickey Mouse</i>	Game Boy	1991-1995
ミッキーマウスIII 夢ふうせん <i>Mickey Mouse III: Yume Fūsen</i> (lit. "Mickey Mouse III: Balloon Dreams")		<i><u>Kid Klown in Night Mayor World</u></i>			NES	1992 & 1993
ミッキーマウスIV 魔法のラビリンス <i>Mickey Mouse IV: Mahō no Labyrinth</i> (lit. "Mickey Mouse IV: The Magical Labyrinth")		<i><u>The Real Ghostbusters</u></i>	<i>Garfield Labyrinth</i>		Game Boy	1993
ミッキーマウスV 魔法のステッキ <i>Mickey Mouse V: Mahō no Stick</i> (lit. "Mickey Mouse V: The Magical Stick")		<i><u>Mickey Mouse: Magic Wands!</u></i>	<i>Mickey Mouse V: Zauberstäbe!</i>		Game Boy	1993 & 1998
ボックス・バニー クレイジーキャッスル3 <i>Bugs Bunny: Crazy Castle 3</i>	それゆけ！！キッド Go! Go! Kid! <i>Soreyuke!! Kid: Go! Go! Kid</i> (lit. "Let's Go!! Kid: Go! Go! Kid")	<i><u>Bugs Bunny: Crazy Castle 3</u></i>			Game Boy/Game Boy Color	1997 & 1999
ボックス・バニークレイジーキャッスル4 <i>Bugs Bunny: Crazy Castle 4</i>		<i><u>Bugs Bunny in Crazy Castle 4</u></i> ^[1]			Game Boy Color	2000
ウッディー・ウッドペッカークレイジーキャッスル5 <i>Woody Woodpecker: Crazy Castle 5</i>		<i><u>Woody Woodpecker in Crazy Castle 5</u></i> ^[2]	<i>Woody Woodpecker: Crazy Castle 5</i>		Game Boy Advance	2002 & 2003
		<i>Crazy Castle</i>			Mobile Phone	2004

Reception

GamePro gave *Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle 2* a fairly positive review, opining that "with smooth animation, good fun, and lively action, *Bugs Bunny* on the Game Boy is actually better than the NES version.^[3]

References

- "Archived copy" (https://web.archive.org/web/20121018045832/http://news.softpedia.com/news/Bugs-Bunny-In-Crazy-Castle-4-Passwords-GameBoy-Color-74894.shtml) Archived from the original (http://news.softpedia.com/news/Bugs-Bunny-In-Crazy-Castle-4-Passwords-GameBoy-Color-74894.shtml) on 2012-10-18. Retrieved 2011-04-13.
- "Archived copy" (https://archive.is/20131113015943/http://beta.gamespot.com/gba/action/woodywoodpeckercrazycastle5/index.html) Archived from the original (http://beta.gamespot.com/gba/action/woodywoodpeckercrazycastle5/index.html) on 2013-11-13. Retrieved 2011-04-13.
- GamePro* issue 23 (June 1991), page 52.

External links

- Crazy Castle* at MobyGames
- The Bugs Bunny Crazy Castle 2*at MobyGames
- Kid Klown in Night Mayor World*at MobyGames
- The Real Ghostbusters*at MobyGames
- Mickey Mouse: Magic Wands!* at MobyGames

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